



ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
SCHOOL EFFECTIVENESS DIVISION

EXPLANATION OF ROLES

As we delve more deeply into School Improvement efforts and assisting Underperforming Schools in effective reform, it is imperative that we clarify and define the roles of all the “players.” Therefore, this information can provide explicit direction as to the roles and expectations of External Facilitators, Solutions Teams, and ASSIST Coaches as they relate to the school improvement process.

Purpose: To clarify and refine roles in the school improvement process.

GUIDING QUESTION	EXTERNAL FACILITATOR	SOLUTIONS TEAM	ASSIST COACH
Who are they?	External Facilitators (EF) are consultants who contract with Title I schools that receive the Title I School Improvement Grant	A qualified 3-person team made up of educators/practitioners that have been screened and trained by ADE.	Arizona School Site Improvement Support Team (ASSIST) Coaches are full-time ADE employees.
What do they do?	EFs assist school improvement teams in the design, development, implementation and evaluation of the Arizona School Improvement Plan (ASIP). Implementation of the plan may include professional development, benchmarking, data analysis, teacher evaluation, curriculum alignment, coordination with other programs, etc.	Solutions Teams complete an evidence-based inquiry using the <i>Standards and Rubrics for School Improvement</i> as a guide during a 3-day site visit. Solutions Teams center their discussion around three guiding questions: 1. Does the ASIP appear to be a sound plan for improving student performance? 2. Do the conditions and structures appear to be in place for successful ASIP implementation?	The ASSIST Coach offers support and collects evidence of progress in ASIP implementation linking the Solutions Teams’ Statement of Findings as mandated by law.



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		3. What recommendations can be provided that will assist the school with their ASIP implementation?	
How are their roles similar/different?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They work collaboratively. • Work toward school, teacher and student success. • Use current research and effective practices. • Focus on ASIP implementation • Hands-on involvement over a period of time • Work closely with the principal and school improvement team • Assist in monitoring and adjusting ASIP 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They work collaboratively. • Work toward school, teacher and student success. • Use current research and effective practices. • Focus on assessing degree of ASIP implementation • Short, 3-day inquiry • Interview and observe all stakeholders 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They work collaboratively. • Work toward school, teacher and student success. • Use current research and effective practices. • Focus on assessing degree of ASIP implementation • Monthly visits for documentation • Work closely with the principal • Offer specialized assistance based on ASIP and Statement of Findings
How are they authorized ?	EFs are ADE-approved based on an application process. They fulfill the role of School Support Teams under NCLB §1117	Solutions Team members are certified by the State Board as Arizona Academic Standards Technicians pursuant to ARS §15-241.	ASSIST Coaches are ADE employees. Their role exceeds the statutory requirement established in ARS §15-241.



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Which schools do they work with?	Title I Schools that receive the Title I School Improvement Grant. (School Improvement – Year 2 and Corrective Action schools)	Underperforming schools and schools identified as Failing to Meet Academic Standards	Underperforming schools
To whom at ADE do they report?	Title I School Improvement Coordinator	Deputy Associate Superintendent, School Improvement	Director, School Improvement